AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as follows:

8. (Currently amended) A method of [selecting] measuring the amount of Erb-B dimers in patient [treatment of a] cancer cells [with one or more Erb-B-dimer-acting drugs], the method comprising the steps of:

isolating a patient sample containing cancer cells from a patient, wherein [wherein] the patient sample is a fixed tissue sample, a frozen tissue sample, or circulating epithelial cells; and

measuring an amount of each of one or more Her receptor heterodimers in the patient sample;

[comparing each such amount to it corresponding amount from a reference sample; and

selecting the patient for treatment with one or more ErbB dimer-acting drugs whenever an amount of one or more Her heterodimers from the patient sample exceeds the respective corresponding amount from the reference sample.]

9. (Cancel)

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim [9] 8 wherein said Her receptor heterodimer is selected from the group consisting of Her2-Her1, Her2-Her3, and Her2-Her4.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said patient sample is a fixed tissue sample and wherein said Her receptor heterodimer is Her2-Her3 or Her2-Her1 [and wherein said ErbB-dimer acting drug is 2C4 or Transtuzamab (Herceptin)].

12. (Currently amended) The method according to claims 8, [9,] 10, or 11 wherein said one or more Her receptor heterodimers are determined by the steps of:

providing for each of said one or more Her receptor heterodimers a reagent pair comprising a cleaving probe having a cleavage-inducing moiety with an effective proximity, and one or more binding compounds each having one or more molecular tags attached thereto by a cleavable linkage, the molecular tags of different binding compounds having different separation characteristics;

mixing the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds for each of said one or more Her receptor heterodimer with said patient sample such that the cleaving probe and the one or more binding compounds specifically bind to their respective Her receptor heterodimer and the cleavable linkages of the one or more binding compounds are within the effective proximity of the cleavage-inducing moiety so that molecular tags are released; and

separating and identifying the released molecular tags to determine the presence or absence or the amount of said one or more Her receptor heterodimers in said fixed tissue sample.